

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCCT-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

DLOS-06 AID-20 IO-14 SY-03 USSS-00 JUSE-00 TRSE-00

SCA-01 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /149 W
----- 047961

R 111205Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1171

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L IZMIR 102

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ETRN, TU

SUBJECT: PASSENGER SHIPPING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN;
SECURITY THREAT TO AMERICAN TOURISTS

REF: STATE 072849

1. CONGEN OFFICER CALLED ON CHIEF OF SECURITY
SECTION OF IZMIR POLICE APRIL 11 IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL.
CHIEF OF SECURITY VERY COOPERATIVE. HE SAID SECURITY
PROCEDURES HAD BEEN IMPROVED SUBSTANTIALLY DURING
PAST YEAR AND THEY WOULD BECOME EVEN MORE
STRINGENT AS TOURIST SEASON GETS UNDERWAY. HE SAID
SECURITY NOT AS DIFFICULT ON TURKISH SHIPS (ON WHICH
MANY U.S. CITIZENS TRAVEL) SINCE IN ADDITION TO NORMAL

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SECURITY MEASURES THEY ALWAYS CARRY SEVERAL PLAIN CLOTHES SECURITY OFFICERS.

2. FOREIGN SHIPS PRESENT MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM, BUT CONTROL OVER ACCESS TO SHIPS HAS BEEN IMPROVED IN IZMIR AND OTHER MAJOR TOURIST PORTS IN THE AREA (KUSADISI, MARMARIS, AND BODRUM). CHIEF OF SECURITY SAID IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IF WE COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH NAMES AND DATES OF ARRIVAL OF SHIPS WE EXPECTED TO BE CARRYING PARTICULARLY LARGE

GROUPS OF U.S. CITIZENS OR WHICH MIGHT FOR SOME OTHER REASON BE LIKELY TARGETS FOR TERRORISTS. CONGEN OFFICER ASSURED HIM WE WOULD PROVIDE INFORMATION WE MIGHT RECEIVE ON SPECIFIC PROBLEMS.

3. LAST YEAR IN RESPONSE TO SIMILAR DEMARCHE IZMIR POLICE DID EXTREMELY THOROUGH JOB. WE CONFIDENT THEY PREPARED TO DO SO AGAIN THIS YEAR; HOWEVER, THERE IS DANGER THAT, IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC INFORMATION, ADDITIONAL APPROACHES MIGHT LEAD TO CONCLUSION WE "CRYING WOLF" WITH RESULTANT NEGATIVE EFFECT ON SECURITY. FOR THIS REASON WE MADE CLEAR IN

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CONVERSATION TODAY THAT WE NOT SOUNDING ALARM AT THIS TIME BUT SIMPLY EXPRESSING OUR GENERAL AND CONTINUING CONCERN.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

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